



## **DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE**

### **National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration**

#### **Proposed Information Collection; Comment Request; Cooperative Game Fish Tagging Report**

**AGENCY:** National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA), Commerce.

**ACTION:** Notice.

**SUMMARY:** The Department of Commerce, as part of its continuing effort to reduce paperwork and respondent burden, invites the general public and other Federal agencies to take this opportunity to comment on proposed and/or continuing information collections, as required by the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995.

**DATES:** Written comments must be submitted on or before [INSERT DATE 60 DAYS AFTER DATE OF PUBLICATION IN THE FEDERAL REGISTER].

**ADDRESSES:** Direct all written comments to Jennifer Jessup, Departmental Paperwork Clearance Officer, Department of Commerce, Room 6616, 14th and Constitution Avenue, NW,

Washington, DC 20230 (or via the Internet at [pracomments@doc.gov](mailto:pracomments@doc.gov)).

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** Requests for additional information or copies of the information collection instrument and instructions should be directed to Eric Orbesen, Southeast Fisheries Science Center, 75 Virginia Beach Dr. Miami, FL 33149, (305) 361-4253 or [Eric.Orbesen@noaa.gov](mailto:Eric.Orbesen@noaa.gov).

## **SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:**

### **I. Abstract**

This request is for extension of a current information collection.

The Cooperative Game Fish Tagging Program was initiated in 1971 as part of a comprehensive research program resulting from passage of P.L. 86-359, Study of Migratory Game Fish, and other legislative acts under which the National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS) operates. The Cooperative Tagging Center attempts to determine the migration patterns of, and other biological information for, billfish, tunas, and swordfish. The fish tagging report is provided to the angler with the tags, and he/she fills out the card with the information when a fish is tagged and mails it to NMFS. Information on each species is used by NMFS to determine migratory patterns, distance traveled, stock boundaries, age, and growth. These data are necessary input for developing management criteria by regional fishery management councils, states, and NMFS.

## **II. Method of Collection**

Information is submitted by mail, and occasionally, international anglers scan the report cards and submit them via email to [tagging@noaa.gov](mailto:tagging@noaa.gov).

## **III. Data**

*OMB Control Number:* 0648-0247.

*Form Number(s):* NOAA Form 88-162. .

*Type of Review:* Regular submission (extension of a current information collection).

*Affected Public:* Individuals or households.

*Estimated Number of Respondents:* 12,000.

*Estimated Time Per Response:* 2 minutes.

*Estimated Total Annual Burden Hours:* 400 hours.

*Estimated Total Annual Cost to Public:* \$0 in recordkeeping/recording costs.

## **IV. Request for Comments**

Comments are invited on: (a) whether the proposed collection of information is necessary for the proper performance of the functions of the agency, including whether the information shall have practical utility; (b) the accuracy of the agency's estimate of the burden (including hours and cost) of the proposed collection of information; (c) ways to enhance the quality, utility, and clarity of the information to be collected; and (d) ways to minimize the burden of the

collection of information on respondents, including through the use of automated collection techniques or other forms of information technology.

Comments submitted in response to this notice will be summarized and/or included in the request for OMB approval of this information collection; they also will become a matter of public record.

Dated: September 28, 2017.

Sarah Brabson,

*NOAA PRA Clearance-Officer.*

**BILLING CODE: 3510-22-S.**

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